18. A method as claimed in claim 17 including simulating a dual value capacitance in relation to a positive cell electrode and simulating a dual value capacitance in relation to a negative cell electrode.

19. Apparatus for providing a float charge to a VRLA battery, including a processing unit programmed to monitor the battery voltage during a selected discharge period for the battery, and determine a float charge to be applied to the battery dependent on the change in battery voltage over the selected period.

20. Apparatus for providing a float charge to a VRLA cell, including a processing unit programmed to determine the peak Tafel equivalent resistance for the cell and determine a voltage to be applied to the cell electrodes dependent on the determined equivalent resistance to provide the float charge.